

Please replace the Abstract at page 14, lines 1 through 8 with the following amended Abstract:

ABSTRACT

METHOD OF REACTING CARBOXYLIC ACID

(FIGURE 4)

A carboxylic acid molecule ($R\text{ COOH}$) is subjected to an electric field in a micro-reactor-~~(11)~~. The molecule ~~decarboxyles~~ decarboxylates to form a radical (R^{\bullet}). Two radicals (R^{\bullet}) can ~~dimerise~~ dimerize to form the product ($R - R$). It is believed that the reaction occurs away from the electrodes used to apply the electric field {but may also occur at the electrode surfaces}.